They have become as righteous as the straitest of the sect of the Pharisees, with no charity, but still with the most perfect correctness; with no meekness or humility, but still with the sternest rigidity. But let it be remembered, that there is something more than this requisite in order to our fulfilling the law of God. For the law is on this wise;—that a man love the Lord with all his heart, and his neighbour as himself; and that he live habitually under the influence of these affections, and of others flowing from them, and obligatory upon him in the condition in which he finds himself. Let the person who is inclined to make the supposed experiment, ponder this law in its purity and extent, and the probability is, that, previous to making the attempt, he will be oppressed with its utter hopelessness.

But there is a self-confident man not so easily appalled by difficulties. By all means then let him make the attempt, and let us watch him as he does so. Let him resolve to create this supreme love which he owes to his Creator, and the other kindred spiritual dispositions. For this purpose, he seats himself in the quiet and retirement of his closet, and resolves that he will induce or compel himself to love the Lord with all his heart. Knowing that it is conception that determines feeling, he calls up an image of God. First, he pictures a being of awful majesty and infinite power, and corresponding feelings of awe and wonder rise up in his mind. Again, he represents God as delighting in the happiness of his creatures, and for an instant there is a pleasing emotion playing upon the surface of his mind, and he begins to imagine that he has been successful.

But suppose that the idea of the holiness of the Divine nature, shining in all its dazzling splendour, now rises up before his view, and that he feels himself to be a sinner in immediate contact with this searching light—we venture to affirm, that the

contemplation will become less pleasant, and that, writhing under an unpleasant inspection, he will be tempted to turn away to other and less holy,.and therefore more pleasing topics; or his love will be turned into slavish fear, and he will scarcely dare to gaze any longer upon this focus of light in the heavens —and the brighter the beams, he will be all the readier to turn away his eye to the lower, and what is to him the lovelier and greener scenery of this earth ; or if, in obstinate determination, he continue to gaze, we venture to affirm, that the very light